

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the pending application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following particulars.

1. In the specification

A Supplemental Application Data Sheet is concurrently submitted to correct the title of the invention to read "SUCTION NOZZLE CARRIER." No new matter is added, since this title appears at the top of page 1 of the originally filed accompanying description in the specification. Additionally, the inventor name is corrected in order to conform with the declaration.

Entry of the Supplemental Application Data Sheet and corrected title is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

2. In the claims

As shown in the foregoing AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS, the claims have been amended to more clearly point out the subject matter for which protection is sought.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 5. No new matter is added, since the amendment simply merges original claims 1 and 5.

Claims 2 and 5 are cancelled.

Claim 6 is amended to depend from claim 1. No new matter is added, since original claim 6 depended from claim 5, the subject matter of which is now incorporated into claim 1.

Claims 3, 4 and 7-10 are left unchanged.

Entry of the AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS is respectfully requested in the next Office communication.

3. Rejection of claims 1, 3, 4 and 9-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 3,907,268 (Hale)

This rejection is rendered moot by the amendment of claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 5.

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

4. Rejection of claims 1, 4, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent 4,878,407 (Harrison et al.)

This rejection is rendered moot by the amendment of claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 5.

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

5. Rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Hale patent in view of U.S. 2,910,265 (Anander)

This rejection is rendered moot by the amendment of claim 1 to include the allowable subject matter of claim 5.

Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

6. Allowable subject matter

The applicant gratefully acknowledges the indicated allowability of claims 5-7. The allowable subject matter of claim 5 has been incorporated into claim 1 by the AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS.

Application No.: 10/642,610
Examiner: J. C. Rodriguez
Art Unit: 3653

7. Conclusion

As a result of the amendment to the claims, and further in view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that every pending claim in the present application be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicants' attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176
Phone: (703) 683-0500
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

Date: May 8, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



JUSTIN J. CASSELL
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 46,205